

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/607,941	MCELVAIN, JON S.
	Examiner Dov Popovici	Art Unit 2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the application filed on 6/27/2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

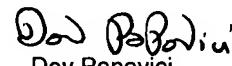
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 06/27/2003
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


 Dov Popovici
 Primary Examiner
 Art Unit 2625

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Rumph et al. (U.S. 6,327,043) discloses automatically generating rendering tags for each of the objects. The rendering tags are used to control the command instruction and data generating system. Based on the objects and the generated rendering tags, the command instruction and data generating system generates the differing types of data and the command instructions on a scanline-by-scanline basis. The data output to the IOT controller includes metabit data which is generated from the rendering tags (see abstract).

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 7,039,232) teaches block level analysis of segmentation tags, and determining a most predominant segmentation tag and a second most predominant segmentation tag in the plurality of segmentation tags, and generating a block level tag for the block based on the most predominant segmentation tag, and the second most predominant segmentation tag and the block statistic (see abstract).

However, the closest prior art of record, namely, Rumph et al. (U.S. 6,327,043) and Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 7,039,232), do not disclose, teach or suggest, the claimed limitation of: for each selected group of input pixels, comparing the priorities of the input tags associated with the selected group of input pixels and selecting as the output tag associated with the output pixel, that tag with the highest priority, as claimed in independent claims 1 and 12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 7,039,232) teaches block level analysis of segmentation tags, and determining a most predominant segmentation tag and a second most predominant segmentation tag in the plurality of segmentation tags, and generating a block level tag for the block based on the most predominant segmentation tag, and the second most predominant segmentation tag and the block statistic (see abstract).

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 6,650,439) teaches segmentation tag cleanup system.

Li et al. (U.S. 6,639,692) teaches pixel level segmentation tag cleanup.

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 6,516,091) teaches a block level analysis of segmentation tag and filtering functions.

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 6,493,463) teaches segmentation tag cleanup using neighborhood tags.

Nagarajan et al. (U.S. 6,636,331) teaches segmentation tag cleanup based on connected components.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dov Popovici whose telephone number is 571-272-4083. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Dov Popovici
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625